

SENATE RESOLUTION 151
By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to create a special committee to study the
licensure of public school teachers in
Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to staffing every public school and providing every student with competent educators; and

WHEREAS, professional standards for entrance to and retention in the teaching profession promote excellence by ensuring that educators who are licensed by the state possess the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver a quality public education to our children; and

WHEREAS, teachers, administrators, and higher education faculty should work together to improve the education profession, thereby enhancing educational opportunities for all students in Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that there is hereby created a special committee to study the licensure of public school teachers in Tennessee. The goal of the study is to determine whether all functions and duties relative to the licensure of public school teachers should be transferred to a professional standards commission working under the oversight of the state board of education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the speaker.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the Senate Education Committee of the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly no later than February 1, 2007, at which time the joint committee shall cease to exist.